Analysis, Visualization, and Reporting (AVR)

May 2006

What is PHIN AVR?

The Wisconsin Public Health Information Network (PHIN) Analysis, Visualization, and Reporting (AVR) capabilities include the ability to analyze, display, report and map accumulated data and share data and technologies for analysis and visualization with other public health partners.

What functions will be provided?

The Wisconsin PHIN AVR provides data reporting, statistical analysis, and spatial analysis though Geographic Information Systems (GIS), plus other visualization, display and mapping functions through the implementation of commercial off the shelf software (COTS).   Implementing these software tools will allow system users to leverage public health data, turning it into information that can readily be used for decision making.

What technologies are used?

The SAS Enterprise Business Intelligence Server (EBIS) will provide statistical analysis and reporting functions. These functions will be available on the web later this year. Currently, several pilot project efforts are underway to implement and test the following capabilities:

- A web-based portal.
- EBIS analytic tools.
- The system's ease of use.
- Data set linking and integration.
- Remote access (users and data).
- Access to several public health data sets including birth, death, communicable disease, and environmental data.

AVR will use ESRI software and other vendor tools to provide spatial data management and analysis. Enabling GIS functionality will allow AVR system users to verify and standardize addresses, geocode or assign latitude and longitude to addresses, perform spatial analysis, provide web-based spatial query and display, and generate maps. Soon, pilot projects will be under way to implement and test the following capabilities:

- Display and understand public health data by location.
- Associate public health data with political boundaries and other geographic features.
- See patterns of events by area.
- Analyze environmental factors influencing health outcomes within geographic areas.

Who should be involved?

The success of the Wisconsin PHIN AVR effort will depend on people, processes, tools (hardware and software), and data. Public health stakeholder involvement, particularly at the local public health department level, will be essential to providing AVR tools and functions to meet public health department needs.

A Wisconsin PHIN workgroup – the AVR Core Team - has been established to help direct the AVR effort, identify pilot projects, and to develop policies related to appropriate data use, AVR access, report generation, etc. We are always looking for more local partners to work collaboratively on this effort to insure that tools and functions provided meet their needs. Please consider contacting us to see how you could be involved in this effort.

Want more information on Wisconsin PHIN AVR?

Email Terry Hiltz, MSPH, PHIN AVR Manager at: hiltzta@dhfs.state.wi.us

Want more information on Wisconsin PHIN?

On the Internet: http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/WiPHIN/ or email DHFSWiPHIN@Wisconsin.Gov